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**From:** Benson, William  
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**Subject:** Homeland Security Research weekly update - August 20, 2015

## **RECENTLY**

### **ORD continues to support response to Gold King Mine blowout**

ORD continues to play a critical support role in EPA's response to this blowout of mine waste in Colorado. ORD researchers Kevin Garrahan, Emily Snyder, Tonya Nichols and Erin Silvestri have manned the ORD Desk at the HQ Emergency Operations Center (EOC) since Tuesday, August 11, representing ORD at various EOC meetings including gatherings of Unified Command's Environmental Unit, and assisting with data review and interpretation (see photo of Garrahan at the ORD Desk). In response to requests for technical capabilities, ORD demonstrated that we can respond swiftly by promptly offering laboratory capacity and technical expertise in field assays, fate and transport in surface and groundwater and in sediments, eco and human health, drinking water treatment, and modeling. ORD's reachback capability (our RACER process), coordinated by Eric Koglin, has been successful at quickly and effectively connecting technical support requests with the right expertise within ORD.



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UPCOMING

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